Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended)   A user interface configured to execute upon initiation of a printing operation from a software application, the user interface comprising an actuatable icon representing a shadow direction for an object to be rendered that when actuated actuates the rendering of a shadow having the shadow direction from the rendered object when printed onto a print media without applying the shadow to the object within the software application, the user interface being configured to receive the object from the software application without having to scan the object from a hard copy image.

2. (Original)   The user interface as defined in Claim 1, further comprising an actuatable icon representing a shadow length for the rendered shadow that when actuated actuates the rendered shadow having the shadow length.

3. (Original)   The user interface as defined in Claim 1, wherein the actuatable icon is a menu item on a menu.

4. (Original)   The user interface as defined in Claim 3, wherein the menu item is a numerical expression.

5. (Previously Presented)   The user interface as defined in Claim 4, wherein the numerical expression includes one or more of degrees and radians.

6. (Original)   The user interface as defined in Claim 3, wherein the menu item is a compass point direction.

7. (Original)   The user interface as defined in Claim 3, wherein the rendered object having the shadow direction is rendered upon the menu.

8. (Original) The user interface as defined in Claim 7, further comprising a print actuation icon that when actuated actuates the printing of shadowed objects having the shadow direction.

9. (Original) The user interface as defined in Claim 8, wherein a word processor software application actuates the display of the menu.

10. (Original) The user interface as defined in Claim 7, wherein the printing operation is selected from the group consisting of printing, magnetic tape recording, photo imaging substrate recording, and magneto optical storage device writing.

Claims 11-17 (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended)   A method for displaying a rendering of a shadow for a predetermined object that is being processed by a software application, the method comprising:

receiving the predetermined object from the software application without having to scan the predetermined object;

serving a user interface for display as a menu in response to a selection of a function to print the predetermined object;

displaying the predetermined object upon the menu;

displaying an actuatable icon as a menu item on the menu, the icon representing a selection of a shadow direction for the predetermined object; and

upon completion of the selection, printing the predetermined object with a shadow having the appearance of being cast from the predetermined object in the selected shadow direction without including the shadow as part of the predetermined object within the software application.

19. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 18, further comprising:

displaying a second actuatable icon on the menu as a second menu item representing a selectable shadow length for the rendered shadow; and

upon the actuation of said second actuatable icon, rendering the shadow having the selected shadow length.

20. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 18, wherein the menu item is a numerical expression.

21. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 20, wherein the numerical expression is selected from the group consisting of degrees and radians.

22. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 18, wherein the menu item is a compass point direction.

23. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 18, further comprising a print actuation icon that when actuated actuates a printing operation for printing characters in a file that are shadowed in the selected shadow direction.

24. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 23, wherein a word processor software application actuates the display of the menu.

25. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 23, wherein the printing operation is selected from the group consisting of printing, magnetic tape recording, photo imaging substrate recording, and magneto optical writing on to storage devices.

26. (Original) A computer-readable media containing computer-executable instructions that, when executed on a computer, performs the method as defined in Claim 18.

27. (Currently Amended)   A shadow rendering system comprising:
a display device;
a host computer in electrical communication with the display device and in response to a print function, performing a demand print application program including the steps of:
        serving a user interface for display as a menu on a screen of the display device in communication with a host computer;

rendering a display of a predetermined object on the menu, where the predetermined object is inputted without being scanned;

displaying an actuatable icon as a menu item on the menu, the icon representing a selection of a shadow direction for the predetermined object; and

upon the actuation of said menu item:

executing an application program on the host computer to calculate a rendering of a shadow having the appearance of being cast from the rendered predetermined object in the selected shadow direction; and

printing the predetermined object including the calculated shadow rendering as being cast from the predetermined object in the selected shadow direction where the shadow is only applied to the predetermined object during the demand print application program.

28. (Original) The system as defined in Claim 27, wherein:

the shadow rendered by the application program executing on the host computer has a default length; and

the demand print application program further includes the steps of:

displaying a second actuatable icon on the menu as a second menu item representing a selectable shadow length for the rendered shadow; and

upon the actuation of said second menu item, said application program executing on the host computer further performing the step of rendering the shadow having the selected shadow length.

29. (Original) The system as defined in Claim 27, wherein the menu item on the menu is a numerical expression.

30. (Original) The system as defined in Claim 29, wherein the numerical expression is selected from the group consisting of degrees and radians.

31. (Original) The system as defined in Claim 27, wherein the menu item is a compass point direction.

32. (Original) The system as defined in Claim 27, wherein:

the host computer is in electrical communication with a printing device; and

the demand print application program includes the steps of:

displaying an actuatable print icon as a menu item on the menu; and

upon the actuation of the actuatable print icon, the demand print application

program executes a printing operation upon the printing device that prints shadowed objects

having the selected shadow direction.

33. (Original) The system as defined in Claim 32, wherein the printing device is selected

from the group consisting of a printer, a magnetic tape recorder, a photo imaging substrate

recorder, and a magneto optical writer.

34. (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable media for providing computer-

executable instructions that, when executed on a computer, provides a user interface configured

to perform a method, the method comprising:

initiating the user interface in response to a print function for printing a document that is

generated by a software program without having to scan the document;

allowing a user to select a shadow direction for selected contents of the document; and

in response to selection of the shadow direction, printing the selected contents with a

shadow having the selected shadow direction on a print media without applying the shadow to

the selected contents outside of the print function.

35. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 34, where the method further

includes displaying an actuatable icon that allows a user to select the shadow direction.

36. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 34, further including displaying a

compass-like object as part of the actuatable icon for selecting the shadow direction.